

.GOVERNANCE & INNOVATION

Course | Pro-module Academic Literacy and Research
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+ Close cooperation between the elements of policy, innovation, and finance is pivotal for sustainable urban development. Innovative built environment policies create a conducive framework for integrating new technologies, industries, and practices in the development process. Financial backing is essential, as it fuels the implementation of innovative ideas, turning them into tangible projects. 't Zoet in Breda exemplifies this triad, where financial investment aligns with policy objectives which in turn aims to foster innovation. This approach ensures that 't Zoet not only adapts to current trends but also sets a precedent for future developments in other cities and regions. As a significant part of Breda's new identity, 't Zoet's evolution into a sustainable and efficient urban space depends on continuous policy adaptation and robust financial strategies.



+ As a speculative design competition, 't Zoet Strata Scapes highlights **eco-innovation** in urban design by promoting sustainable practices and biodiversity. It addresses the construction industry's massive raw material and energy consumption, emphasizing the need for sustainable production.

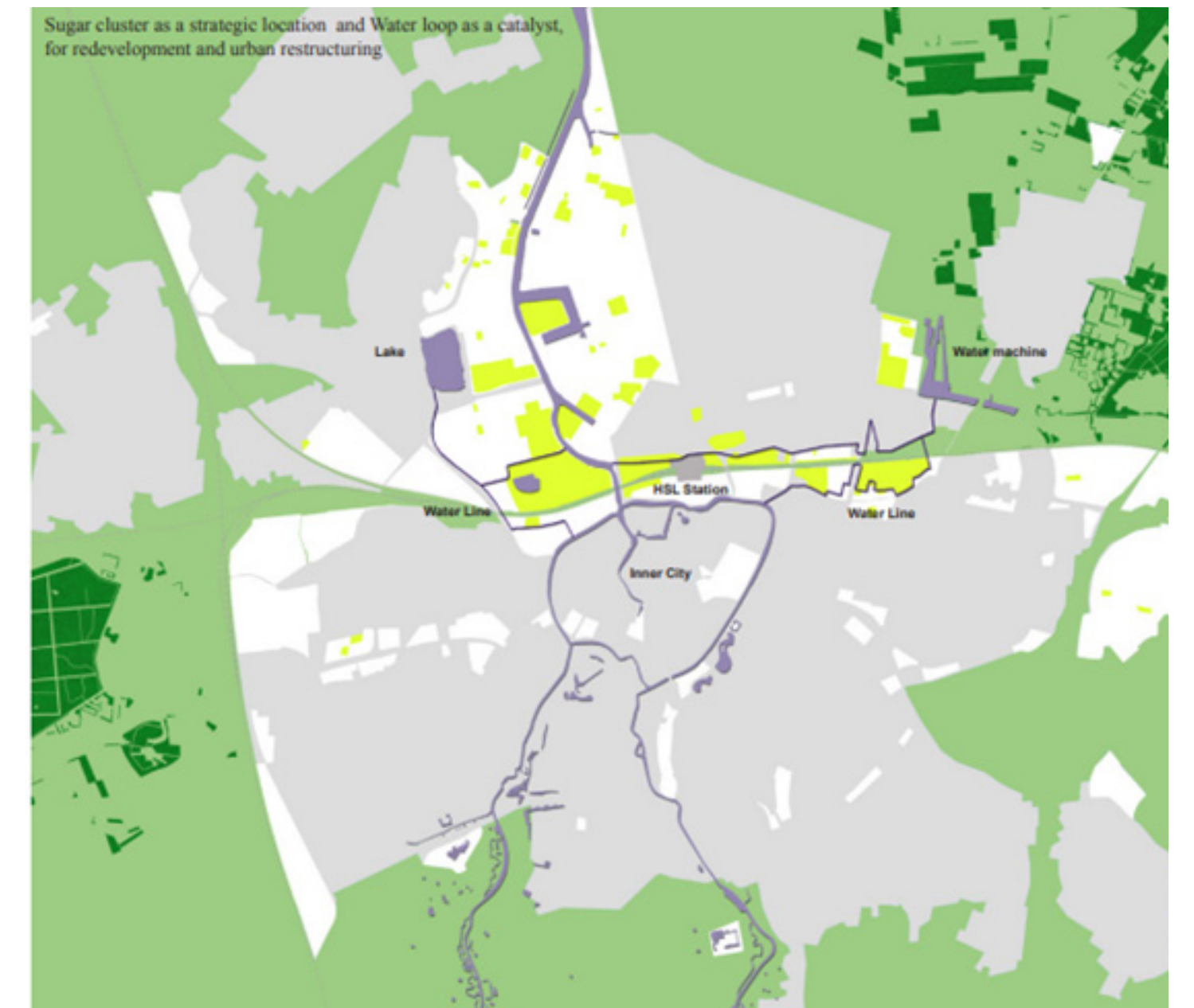
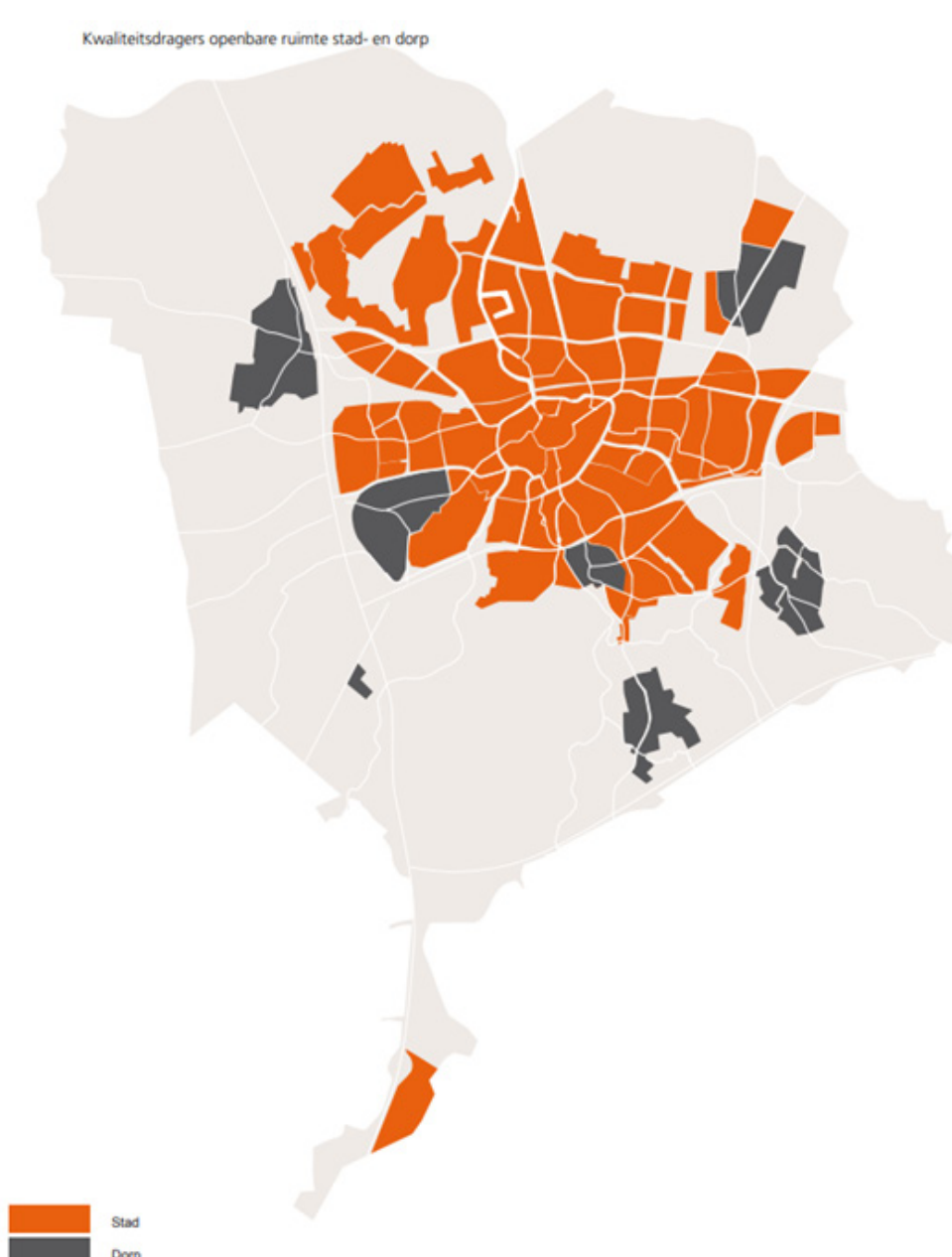
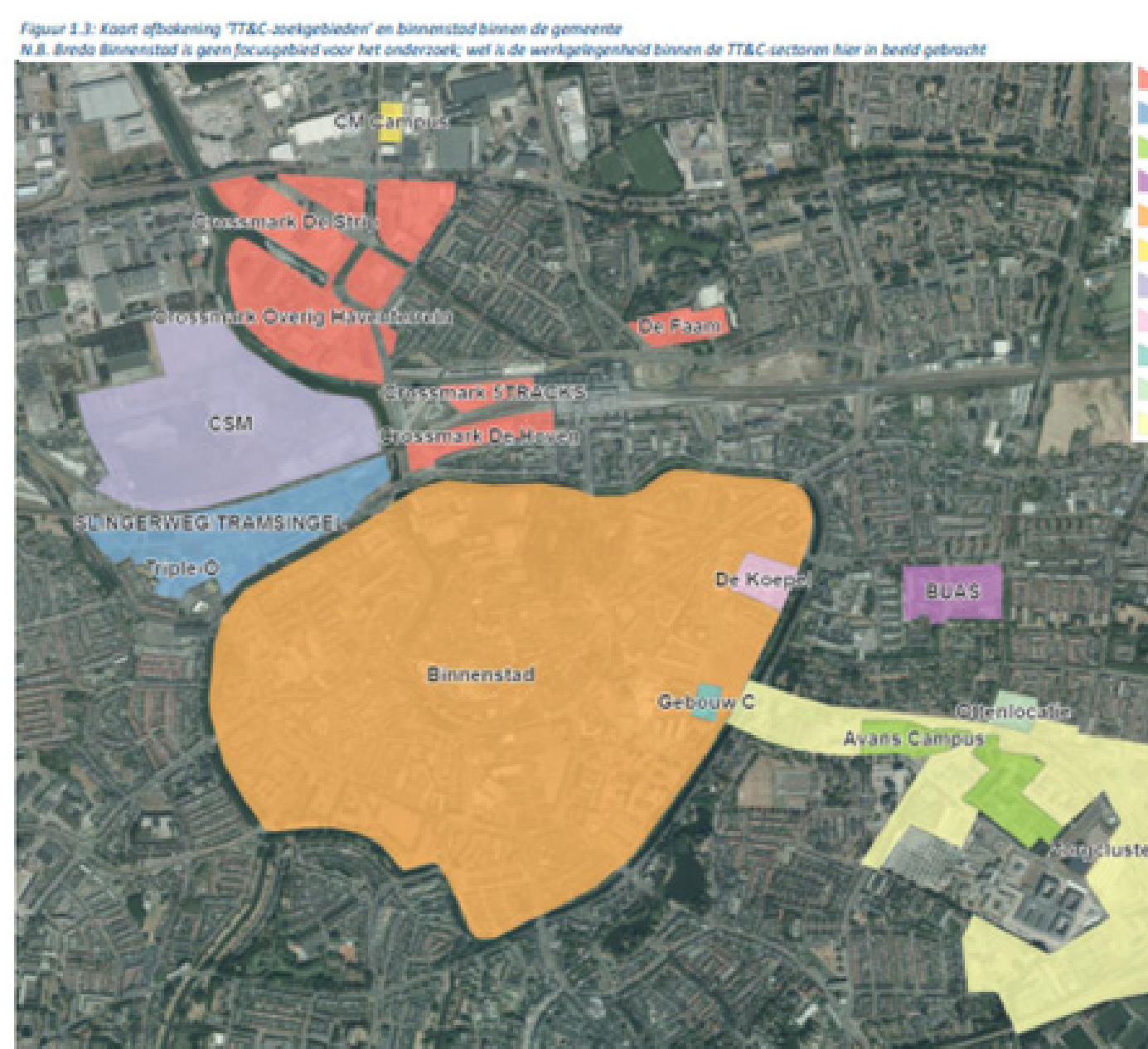
+ The strategy involves **bioregional design**, which integrates reuse and phytoremediation to revitalize structures and landscapes. This approach uses **local resources and regenerative techniques** to create a **Strata system**—a layered model combining infrastructure, experimental spaces, and natural materials. It fosters a community-centric environment with residential, educational, and recreational spaces, aiming for ecological and social harmony.

+ **Breda leads in progressive urban development.** The emphasis of this site development falls on **inclusivity, sustainability, and economic vitality.** It faces challenges such as a **lack of robust policy plans**, sanitation costs, soil quality risks, and funding. There is a **need for vital collaboration** among stakeholders to balance heritage with modernization. Secondly, top-down development forces associated with large-scale developments should be balanced with **temporary initiatives engaging residents** towards the goal of building strong neighbourhoods with equitable access to opportunities, services and green spaces. Lastly, **bring citizens along and part of the process** through initiatives such as the Urban Living Lab Breda and the "Stad van Straks" projects, ensuring transition between short-, medium- long-term planning.

+ The 't Zoet site will undergo transformation into a high-density district, prioritising water management and mobility, though **funding sources remain unspecified.**

How to measure the effectiveness of innovative ideas, to answer the complexity of future problems within the built environment?

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How can Breda and Noord-Brabant foster sustainable urban development at 't Zoet, aligning with inclusivity, environmental sustainability, and community participation goals, while tackling sanitation costs, soil risks, and market dynamics?

What are the possible ways the Municipality can find funding for 't Zoet?

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+ **Finance Considerations:** Large-scale urban developments such as these face financial challenges and in need of significant investment. While there is a vision for growth, a **robust policy framework and action plan for site development complicates funding decisions.** The **vague terms in the urban development** agenda require specific financial allocations —such as inclusivity, environmental sustainability, and economic vitality— and **need to be fleshed out more.** Key hurdles include sanitation costs, soil quality risks, and market dynamics. Funding sources for critical projects, like the 't Zoet site, remain unclear but offer attractive opportunities. Balancing historical heritage preservation with modern development necessitates strategic financial planning. **Collaborative efforts among government agencies, private partners, and the local community are essential to secure sustainable funding.** Perhaps later, financial viability will follow the energy.